

BRITISH PREPARE FOR GREAT DRIVE NEAR ARRAS

TANKS AND NEW MYSTERIOUS GAS WILL BE TRIED BY GERMANS IN OFFENSIVE, SAY PRISONERS TAKEN BY ENGLISH—MEN NOT EAGER FOR THE INITIATIVE.

British Army Headquarters in France, Feb. 19.—(By the Associated Press)—The great German offensive on the western front is expected to begin on the sector between Arras and St. Quentin.

Tanks and "a new mysterious gas" will be employed by the enemy in the attempt to break through the Allied line. Other attacks will be delivered farther south.

These facts have become known through captured German prisoners and other channels.

Field Marshal von Hindenburg and Gen. von Ludendorff appear to have realized that the old methods of attack, in which a long bombardment is employed, are too well known to produce the results desired.

Despite assurances and the intensive training to which they have been put, the German troops frankly are skeptical of the success of the new offensive and are undertaking their task with no enthusiasm, according to prisoners.

It is reported that Gen. von Ludendorff recently addressed a body of infantry at Leuven and asked how many men were willing to fight to a finish. Only five non-commissioned officers and privates stepped forward. The others declared their desire for an early peace by "arrangement."

LIFT EMBARGOES OF TWO OF BIG EASTERN ROADS

Washington, Feb. 19.—Freight conditions are so much better in the East that the railroad administration announced today that it had been able to lift the embargo restrictions on several important articles of small bulk contributing to production of food, fuel or the maintenance of health.

Although this modification applies formally only to the Pennsylvania, Erie and Baltimore & Ohio, on which the official embargo has been imposed for more than a month, the effect will be automatically to remove local restrictions on other roads, connecting with these trunk lines.

Railroads were instructed to embargo consignees who do not unload freight promptly on arrival, subject to the approval of the regional director.

E. J. Henry of Chicago, western traffic manager for the Lehigh Valley, assumed today his new duties as manager of Great Lake transportation lines operated by railroads. He will work under the direction of W. H. Pleasant, manager of marine transportation for the railroad administration.

HOLDING WRITER FOR EXPLOSION

Stamford, Feb. 15.—Damage to a considerable extent was done here last night when a short circuit of electric light wires ignited gas which had filled wide conduits on Clark's hill with a resultant explosion of much force. Three iron manhole covers were blown to bits, buildings were shaken and many persons left their beds and ran outside to find out what the commotion was about.

The police claim that Cortland H. Young, a writer, in driving his automobile over Clark's hill, ran into an electric light pole, bringing it down. The arc lamp fixture fell on Miss M. E. Kutchins of 3 East 44th street, New York, and painfully hurt her. At first surgeons believed she had suffered a fractured limb. Miss Kutchins was cared for at a hotel, while Young, who was only bruised, stayed over night at the police station. He lives in Newfield avenue. His claim is that a heavy fog obscured his vision as the machine went over the hill.

NEGRO ROBBERS SHOOT VICTIM

Torrington, Feb. 18.—Samuel D. Grand, 23 years old, is at the Huntington hospital with a bullet wound in his left foot, and the police are searching for three negroes who, it is said, held up D. Grand near his home, late last night, and shot him after taking everything from his pockets, including \$11.

HELSINGFORS IS STILL CUT OFF

Stockholm, Feb. 18.—Telegraphic communication with Russia was re-established yesterday after 10 days' interruption by the destruction of the cable terminus in Nystad, Finland, by retreating White guards. Nystad still is in the hands of the Red guard. There still is no communication with Helsingfors.

SENATOR HUMBERT OF PARIS IS HELD

Paris, Feb. 18.—Charles Humbert, senator from the Meuse and proprietor of the Journal, was arrested today.

ASK RUMANIA FOR INDEMNITY

Amster-dam, Feb. 19.—Peace terms offered to Rumania by Germany, the Deutsche Nachrichten of Leipzig says, must include the surrender of the Dobruja to Bulgaria. Germany also must demand an indemnity of an economic kind, especially as to raw materials.

ASTOR A FRIEND OF FAKE MARQUIS NOW IN CUSTODY

Roosevelt's Name Also Found in List of Addresses Kept in Book.

YOUNG ADVENTURER MAY GET 20 YEARS

Assumed Title of Marquis After Getting \$10,000 From Miss Mayher.

New York, Feb. 19.—"Senor Don Rousselet, Marquis Edmond de Cas-tillor" (for that's the way the name is written on the "royal commission" granted to Edmond Rousselet, the one-time \$15 a week telephone operator, by his "intimate friend" King Alfonso XIII. of Spain), will be arraigned in the criminal branch of the federal court on Tuesday.

There he will answer to the indictment which charges him with impersonating an official of the French government, with forgery of a United States government pass to docks, warships and ferries, with the larceny of treasury department stationery and with obtaining \$500 under false pretenses from W. E. D. Stokes of the Hotel Astor.

Had Prominent Friends. The "Marquis" it was said, numbered among his acquaintances—at least, that is what the "Senor Don" claims—a score or two of the best known men in New York. Likewise it was officially asserted that he served a term in the Brixton prison, near London, before transferring to the American field of action. It was also said that there is reason to believe that he was in trouble in France before emigrating to England in 1910, but definite evidence to this effect has not yet reached this country from the American agents in France.

Edmond Rousselet, which is the rightful name of the young man in the Tombs, was born in the south of France about 30 years ago. His parents were highly respectable and, according to the best information obtainable on this side, very poor. The boy never had any educational advantages, but attended a village school in his early teens and served his preliminary tour in the French army.

At the end of his army service he went to England. This was early in 1910. In England he was sentenced to something more than a year in Brixton for larceny, according to the information now in the possession of the authorities. In 1912 Rousselet arrived in New York, and within a few weeks after he landed he was employed from the New York Telephone Co. For two years he worked for the telephone people, and in due course of time he became an expert switchboard operator.

From the time he quit the employ of the telephone company in 1912 until about three months ago the records are not clear as to the career of the "marquis."

Got \$10,000 from Woman. The documentary evidence now in the possession of the federal government indicates that "Senor Don Rousselet's" meteor started to travel at about the time he was introduced to Miss Josephine Mayher, the elderly woman from whom he obtained a loan of \$10,000, for which loan he pledged certain "stock" in an oil concern of his own making. Miss Mayher, it may be said, still believes in the "marquis" and recently pleaded with a federal official to let him go.

The loan obtained from her does not figure in the case, however, and the plea was not availed. It was immediately after the Mayher loan that Rousselet assumed the title of "Marquis de Castillor," and shortly thereafter began to spread the report that he was an intimate friend of the Spanish King and was in this country as the "personal attache of his majesty."

SLAYS FAMILY, THEN HIMSELF

Columbus, O., Feb. 19.—After shooting and killing his wife Lena, aged 33; his six year old daughter Annabel and his sister-in-law, Miss Hazel Steele, aged 25, and so seriously wounding his mother-in-law, Mrs. Sally Crut, that she is not expected to live, Forrest Bigelow, aged 42, an insurance agent, early today turned a gun on himself and died instantly. Domestic troubles are reported to have caused the shooting.

ELECTRIC CHAIR FOR CHOIR BOY

New York, Feb. 19.—Paul Chapman, a 16 year old choir boy, was sentenced to death in the electric chair in Sing Sing prison by Supreme Court Justice Isaac M. Kapper today. Unless Gov. Whitman intervenes by commuting the sentence to life imprisonment the boy will die some time during the first week in April. Chapman was convicted of killing a Brooklyn shop keeper while attempting, with two other youths, to rob his store.

TO EXTEND WAR SAVINGS DRIVE

Hartford, Feb. 19.—Plans for increasing the scope of the war savings campaign in Connecticut will be discussed at a meeting of all the town war savings chairmen to be held at the State Capitol in this city on Tuesday, March 5. Arrangements for this meeting are now in the hands of State Director Howell Cheney.

INQUISITIVE PERSON HELD ON SUSPICION

Raleigh, N. C., Feb. 19.—A man giving his name as Henry Hering is under arrest here today because federal agents say he has been unduly active in visiting state buildings and inquiring about railroads and military affairs. He says he stopped in Raleigh while en route from Philadelphia to Florida as pilot for Louis Gerderas, chauffeur of John Wamaker.

INDEMNITY DEMANDED OF RUSS

Germany in Brest-Litovsk Parley Wanted Annexation Also.

London, Feb. 19.—A dispatch to the Times from Petrograd under date of Feb. 15 quotes Leon Trotsky, the Bolshevik foreign minister, as declaring in his report on the ending of the negotiations at Brest-Litovsk that the German terms including the retention of Poland, Lithuania, Riga and Moon island and an indemnity of 800,000,000 pounds, presumably in gold.

The Daily News has a dispatch from Petrograd dated Feb. 13 reporting typhus spreading in that city, with 60 per cent. of the cases fatal. The epidemic was attributed to starvation conditions and the return of soldiers whose clothing presumably carried the germs of infection. Nearly 600 cases of the disease are reported in one hospital and the infection is said to have spread through lack of disinfection of clothing and of the cabs in which the sick were taken to the hospital.

COSSACK HETMAN, GEN. KALEDINES KILLED HIMSELF

Petrograd, Friday, Feb. 15.—Gen. Kaledines, hetman of the Don Cossacks, committed suicide at Novo Tcherkassk, headquarters of the Don Cossacks, during a session of the Novo Tcherkassk government which he attended. The government decided to resign and transfer its power to the local workmen's and soldiers' council. After the decision Gen. Kaledines went to an adjoining room and shot himself.

Gen. Nazarov, who succeeded Gen. Kaledines as leader of the Don Cossacks, ordered the immediate mobilization and arming of all Cossacks to fight the Bolshevik troops advancing toward Novo Tcherkassk.

As leader of the Don Cossacks Gen. Kaledines was opposed to the Bolsheviks and he was the leader of the counter revolt against the Bolsheviks early last December. On Jan. 1 the republic of the Don was declared with Gen. Kaledines as president and prime minister. It probably was the resignation of this government that led to his suicide.

In five weeks during June and July, 1916, Russian troops under Gen. Kaledines captured 20,000 prisoners in an advance in Volhynia. He was elected leader of the Don Cossacks in July, 1917.

TROTSKY UNIQUE IN REPUDIATION OF ALLIED DEBT

Petrograd, Friday, Feb. 15.—The protest made by Allied and neutral diplomatic representatives against the repudiation of Russia's national debt by the Bolshevik government, Foreign Minister Trotsky intimated to the Central executive committee of All-Russian workmen's and soldiers' congress last night, indicated connection with the German imperialists. He said: "The protest of all the ambassadors against the nullification of loans looks around as a ring of international imperialists."

The protest presented to Foreign Minister Trotsky by the diplomats reads: "In order to avert all misunderstanding in the future, the representatives in Petrograd of all foreign powers declare that they consider the decrees on the subject of the repudiation of the Russian national debt, the confiscation of property of all sorts and other analogous measures as without value inasmuch as they concern their nationals, and they said representatives reserve to themselves the right to claim at any hour they desire from the Russian government damages for all losses which the decrees and measures put upon their nationals."

TEN OF GERMAN RAIDING PLANES SENT TO EARTH

London, Feb. 19.—Ten German aeroplanes were brought down and six others were disabled by British airmen on Sunday, according to an official statement on aerial activities issued last night. Hundreds of bombs have been dropped on various targets and on Monday British airmen raided Thiers and Tremouville.

First reports from outlying parts of London say the gun defense never was more effective than on Monday night, when it prevented German aerial raiders from reaching hotly. Eventually the raiders made off toward the east coast.

German fliers again last night took advantage of the moonlight to attempt to drop bombs on London. The fire of barrage guns on the outskirts of London was heavy for two hours. "There were no air raid, says an official announcement.

MURDER OF PRIEST IS CHARGED

Charge Factory Worker Was One of Men Who Killed Clergyman.

ARREST SCHRAMM AT LOCAL PLANT

Robbery Motive Which Actuated Slaying of Pole Curate.

Tuesday, Feb. 19

With the arrest of Mike Schramm today on the charge of homicide Detective Captain Cronan believes that he has cleared up a murder mystery which has puzzled the police heads of the entire county since the night of August 24, 1915, when the Rev. Father Kayser, a Polish priest was shot and killed in Gary, Indiana.

Schramm, who has resided at 133 Pierpont street since last September under the alias of Michael Lowes, has, according to acquaintances, been the victim of a tormented conscience. At times he has been steeped in the depths of gloom, while at other times he forced himself to be the most hilarious of a party.

Ever since the night of the tragedy Captain Cronan has taken an interest in the case, but the meager details sent out from Gary were not sufficient to go upon, and it was only after weeks of waiting that he was able to get sufficient details to warrant him in arresting Schramm.

According to the history of the crime, Father Kayser was in his study at the rectory attached to his church shortly before midnight August 24, counting the proceeds of a charity bazaar which had been held in aid of the orphanage under his charge. He forgot to close the shutters of the window and two men peering through the glass watched his every move.

Fearing to keep such a large sum of money in the house the clergyman put it in a bag and leaving the rectory wended his way to the nearby convent where there was a strong vault and where he knew the funds would be safe until banking hours next day.

He had not got more than 200 feet away from his house when he was set upon by two thugs who demanded the money. A struggle followed and the priest fought so strenuously that one of the bandits shot him dead.

The crime for help and the noise of the death grapple coupled with the explosion of the shot attracted some people to the aid of the priest, but too late. He sank to the ground and the assassins made good their escape, but without any loot.

The case created a furore in the Indiana city, but after being a seven days' wonder the matter faded from the public prints and little was either done or heard about it afterwards. It was put down by the Gary police department as being another of the many unsolved mysteries and as such allowed to slide.

Captain Cronan, read about the case in the Associated Press dispatches of the date and ever since has had the crime among the collection which he has persistently worked on. When Schramm came to Bridgeport last fall he was seen by Captain Cronan, and marked as being a man who at some time or another would receive more than passing attention from him. His actions were watched, his friends questioned and soon it became apparent that Schramm had a past.

He could not sleep at night. He was given to fits of despondency during which he would confide in intimates the fact that he had a great trouble on his mind. He avoided church, priests and ministers, or anything that savored of religion, notwithstanding the fact that he was one of the most ardent Catholics up to the time the murder of Father Kayser was committed.

Captain Cronan sent such a detailed description of Schramm's actions that he travels three years ago, that the Gary authorities sent forward a warrant upon which the arrest was made today at Schramm's home by Detective-Lieutenant Dooley and Detective-Sergeant Bray.

Schramm denied any knowledge of the crime at first, but weakened and admitted that he had knowledge of the murder, but catching himself later said that he had merely read details of the tragedy.

His statements were so contradictory and his motives for assuming aliases so mysterious, coupled with the fact that he has admitted to many of the fact that he was mixed up in the murder of the priest, that Detective Captain Cronan feels confident that at last the long search for the assassin of the Polish priest is at an end, and now Schramm will have to go back to Gary to answer the charge of murdering Father Kayser.

EIGHT MEN ARE HURT IN MONTANA

Washington, Feb. 19.—Eight men have been injured in an explosion of a cartridge case during target practice on the cruiser Montana. A brief report to the navy department today carried no details of the accident and did not give the names of the men hurt.

A radical denial was issued by the department of recent reports of an explosion on board the battleships Utah. The death of Lieut. Commander Baugh, which gave rise to the rumor, was caused by falling down a hatch.

MINERS COMPEL BOSS TO SWEAR FEALTY TO U. S.

Springfield, Ill., Feb. 18.—Two hundred miners quit work at the mine of the Citizens' Coal Co. here today, driving the mine manager, Henry Martini and his two sons before them to the public square, and compelled them to kiss the flag and swear allegiance to the United States. The mine was shut down today, the miners declaring they will not return to work until Martini is discharged. Martini and his sons were rescued by the sheriff.

Martini is said to have aroused the indignation of the men when a youth who had been rejected by the navy returned to work.

"If you want a job you'll have to go to the navy for it," Martini is declared to have informed the youth.

HACKETT GIVES HIS SERVICES FOR SOLDIERS

Washington, Feb. 18.—Anxious to render a patriotic war service, James K. Hackett, famous American actor-manager, has volunteered his services to the Knights of Columbus Committee on War Activities, and has been appointed general director of amusement by that organization. Mr. Hackett will immediately begin the organization of high class theatrical companies in the army encampments and cantinets and the naval stations, these companies to be composed of professional actors and talented amateurs who are now in military service. Mr. Hackett will receive no remuneration for his work, and has signified his intention of devoting his entire time to it for the duration of the war.

The plays which Mr. Hackett plans to produce will be presented in the buildings which the Knights of Columbus, representing the Catholic people of this country, are operating as social, recreational and religious centers in the camps. He will be assisted by several executive and producing experts from his own staff, and will begin operations at Camp Devens, Ayer, Massachusetts. As soon as the organization of the talent in the American camps has been completed, Mr. Hackett will go to France to continue his work in the Knights of Columbus buildings located in the camps of the American expeditionary forces.

"There are probably more actors in the service than men of any other class when the numerical strength of the profession is taken into consideration," says Mr. Hackett. "I am sure there will be no difficulty in organizing companies which will compare in every way with those usually seen in the best theaters, and after examining the Knights of Columbus buildings I find them admirably settled to productions of the kind I have in mind. The Knights of Columbus are rendering a splendid patriotic service by the maintenance of these recreation buildings, and I am glad of the opportunity to contribute my experience to the work they are doing."

INTERNATIONAL EGG CONTEST

In the fifteenth week of the laying contest at Storrs the hens laid at the rate of a little more than 34 per cent, as compared with a 38 per cent. yield for the previous week. The total number of eggs collected amounted to 2398 or a drop of nearly 300 eggs. This condition, however, can be only temporary as the birds are sure to make rapid gains and climb quite steadily until they will be laying more than 4,000 eggs a week.

Richard Allen's Rhode Island Reds from Pittsfield, Mass., are first on the list with 48 eggs for the week. A. P. Robinson's Leghorns, from Calverton, N. Y., that have been laying wonderfully well for more than a month got into second place with a yield of 46 eggs. A. W. Rumery's R. I. Reds from Danville, N. H., and Joseph M. Rothschild's Barred Rocks from Katonah, N. Y., were rated third and fourth with 42 and 41 eggs respectively.

In going over the records for the month of January it has been found that each of the pens in the contest averaged to lay seven dozen eggs which were sold at wholesale for 74 cents a dozen. This means, of course, that the gross income from the sale of eggs amounted to \$5.18 as an average. The best pen, however, laid 206 during January and these at the same price, of course, sold for \$12.70. Each pen of ten birds averaged to consume during January about three-fourths of a bag of feed that was worth approximately \$2.50. Thus it appears that the real criterion for determining a hen's worth is the number of eggs she lays.

Barred Plymouth Rocks	
Jules F. Francis,	
West Hampton Beach, L. I.	434
Rock Rose Farm,	
Katona, N. Y.	404
Tom J. Adams,	
Laurel P. O. Quebec, Can.	379
White Wyandottes	
Obed G. Knight,	
Bridgeport, R. I.	511
Brayman Farm,	
Westville, N. H.	464
J. Frank Dubois,	
East Lynn, Mass.	420
Rhode Island Reds	
Richard Allen,	
Pittsfield, Mass.	424
Pinecrest Orchards,	
Groton, Mass.	422
Allan's Hard-to-beat Reds,	
Newport, R. I.	333
White Leghorns	
J. O. LeFevre,	
New Paltz, N. Y.	452
Brasfield Poultry Farm,	
Brookside, Pa.	409
Hollywood Farm,	
Hollywood, Wash.	398
Miscellaneous	
Cook & Porter, (Buff Wyandottes) Easthampton, Mass.	463
Ore. Agricultural College (Oregon) Corvallis, Ore.	454
H. P. Chappin (Buff Wyandottes) East Hartford, Conn.	382

OWN ROADS JOHN ADVISES

California Senator Is Against Temporary Control Plan.

NATION TIRED OF PRIVATE BUNGLING

Railways Have Broken Down Under Increase of Traffic.

Washington, Feb. 19.—Permanent ownership of railroads rather than government control for the period of the war, was advocated by Senator Johnson of California today in a speech opposing the Senate draft of the administration's railroad bill.

"I would now take the inevitable next step in government control of our railroads," Senator Johnson declared, "and do whatever might be essential to make that government control permanent government ownership, or at least leave the way open so that immediately on the termination of the war we might follow to its logical conclusion what already we have partially done."

The California senator protested vigorously the proposed rate of compensation to be paid to the railroads under the provisions of the bill and opposed the senate's plan to turn the railroads back to private management 18 months after the conclusion of peace.

In support of his declaration for government ownership Senator Johnson said that the railroads had broken down under the stress of the last few months; that, if the country is to have efficient national transportation, the roads must be nationalized and operated by one directing head; that the American people have "paid the price of private ownership" and that "despite barriers and obstacles, the nation is marching straight to the goal of public ownership, and the people at last will come into their own."

"What this proposed rate means," added Senator Johnson, "is that the interest on the outstanding bonds of the railroads will be paid in accordance with the interest rates now fixed; it means, in addition, that on the stock of the railroads of the country will be paid by the government of the United States something in excess of 8 per cent. per annum; it means that this percentage in excess of 8 per cent. per annum is paid on all the stock of all the railroads; it means that this percentage (and I am speaking only of the minimum) shall be paid by the people of the United States not only on the legitimate issues of the stock of railroad corporations but on every issue of stock that has been illegitimately issued—watered stock estimated at almost 50 per cent. of the total stock of these corporations—stock representing nothing but the greed and the avarice of railroad magnates."

Senator Johnson digressed from his discussion of the railroad legislation to express his approval of President Wilson's recent stand against secret diplomacy and the president's policy of addressing congress from time to time in "the open forum of the world."

Senator Johnson referred to the work of the senate commerce committee, of which he is a member, and its investigation of the shipping situation. Regarding the Hog Island, Pa., inquiry, he asserted:

"In one of the contrasts entered by the government—that with the American International Co.—a state of affairs beggarly description has developed. The evidence demonstrates a wild saturnalia of extravagance; a brilliant phantasmagoria of patriotic pretense. And the pity and the shame of it are that those who, with a sober face and almost studied disregard of every principle of economy, are using the money of the tax payers are some of the great captains of industry of the nation."

PROPAGANDA TO OFFSET GERMAN AGENTS' WORK

New York, Feb. 18.—A campaign of American propaganda in foreign countries, including Germany and neutral lands, will be begun soon, it became known here today, by Arthur Woods, former police commissioner of this city. It was learned that Mr. Woods planned to go to Washington within a day or two to confer with government officials.

The appointment of Mr. Woods by the government is understood to have been made through the Committee on Public Information, with which he will co-operate in plans designed to counteract the influences of German propaganda.

Under Mr. Woods' direction the truth about America's role in the war will be spread among the German people and among non-belligerents, and efforts will be made to hearten the people of the Entente allies with knowledge of what this country will do in war, and to combat such insidious German propaganda as is said to have caused Italian military reverses. To Russia will be conveyed the principles of American democracy.

BIG EXPLOSION IN PATERSON COURT HOUSE

Pateron, N. J., Feb. 19.—A bomb was exploded in the rotunda of the Passaic county court house here today. A number of persons were slightly hurt by falling glass and plaster.